

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A thickener for concentration of a ~~fibre~~ fiber suspension containing relatively coarse undesired particles, comprising:

- a housing ~~(1)~~,
- a rotor ~~(2)~~ arranged in the said housing,
- a screen member ~~(4)~~ attached to the said rotor and having including screen passages dimensioned for separating the ~~fibre~~ said fiber suspension into a first fraction of the ~~fibre~~ said fiber suspension passing through the said screen member and substantially containing ~~fibres~~ fibers, and a second fraction not passing through the said screen member and containing the said coarse undesired particles,
- a stationary thickening member ~~(9)~~ surrounding the at least a portion of said rotor and provided with a multiplicity of through holes, and
- supply means ~~(6, 10)~~, arranged in the housing for supplying the said first fraction of the ~~fibre~~ said fiber suspension to the said stationary thickening member, so that the whereby said stationary thickening member separates the ~~can separate~~ said first fraction into a third fraction passing through the holes of the said multiplicity of through holes in said stationary thickening member, and a fourth fraction not passing through the holes of the said multiplicity of through holes in said stationary thickening member, wherein the said multiplicity of through holes of the thickening member ~~(9)~~ are being dimensioned such that substantially only liquid but ~~not fibres~~ is allowed permitted to pass through the said stationary thickening member, whereby the and said fourth fraction of the ~~fibre~~ said fiber suspension produced during operation is constituted by comprises thickened ~~fibre~~ fiber pulp free from of

said undesired coarse particles.

2. (currently amended) A thickener according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said screen member (4) ~~is~~ tubular and is coaxially attached to ~~the~~ said rotor (2).

3. (currently amended) A thickener according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein ~~the~~ said stationary thickening member (9) ~~is~~ tubular and coaxially surrounds ~~the~~ said rotor (2).

4. (currently amended) A thickener according to ~~any of~~ claims 1-3, wherein ~~the fibre~~ said fiber suspension to be thickened has a ~~fibre~~ fiber concentration in the range of 0.5 ~~to~~ 5%.